

What Has GOD Said?

I. Introduction

A. Pleasing God requires distinguishing between “wisdom” of the world and the wisdom that comes from God. Any time man’s wisdom conflicts with God’s, we must ask “what has *God* said?” He is always right, and *His* Word is the authoritative truth we will be judged by. **Jeremiah 10:23; John 17:17**

II. About Gender?

A. An example of this principle is seen when considering the subject of *gender*. Though man has created much confusion about this subject, God has shown us that He purposefully created two genders – male and female. He created the two with differences that perfectly complement one another, and did not leave it up to any individual to decide what gender he or she is. **Matthew 19:4; Genesis 1:27; 2:20-22**

III. About Homosexual Conduct?

A. Shortly after creating the first man and woman, God instituted marriage (cf. **Gen. 2:23-24**). His intention for marriage is that one man and one woman be married for life. God does not authorize same-sex “marriage.” Hence, homosexual conduct is a form of fornication, and sinful. It is condemned directly by God. Though this truth is not popular, that does not make it less true. **1 Corinthians 6:9-11** (cf. **Rom. 1:26-27**)

IV. About Marriage’s Permanency?

A. God has not only shown us that He wills for marriage to be between a man and a woman, but He has also spoken concerning how *long* God-approved marriages are to last. Man may teach that if one grows tired of his or her spouse, he or she can leave the marriage and look for another mate. God, however, says something far different. **Matthew 19:6, 9**

V. About Roles in the Home?

A. Moreover, man might say that husbands and wives can decide for themselves what *roles* to fill in the family. God, however, teaches that He wills for husbands and wives to perfectly complement one another by following *His* pattern for the home. His pattern must likewise be the blueprint for parents and children. **Ephesians 5:22-25; 6:1**

VI. About the Church’s Worship?

A. Just as God has provided the perfect blueprint for the family, He has likewise given us the perfect blueprint for the *church*. Part of His pattern for the church involves the church’s worship. Man might consider pleasing the worshipper to be the goal of worship. God, however, shows us that worship is intended to please *Him* (cf. **John 4:24**). Moreover, He tells us *what* worship pleases Him. **Ephesians 5:19**

VII. About Greatness?

A. More generally, God has given us the perfect pattern for life. He teaches us what life is about and what doing truly great things means. Though man may teach that greatness is about possessions, preeminence, popularity, or earthly accomplishments, God teaches that greatness is about serving Him and serving others in the ways He’s commanded. **Matthew 20:25-28**

VIII. Conclusion

A. These examples demonstrate the need for us to allow God’s Word to shape our thinking. With *any* subject God has spoken about, it is key to ask, “What has *God* said?” May we hold steadfastly to His teachings, including those that contradict the “wisdom” promoted by many in the time and place we live. **Matthew 7:13-14**